

CITY OF SAINT PAUL Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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September 14, 2010

Cherokee Regional Trail Design Advisory Meeting Meeting Notes – September 8, 2010 Wellstone Center Fireside Room **Meeting Attendees:**

Vicki Kunerth, Daniel Vickery, Jim Ingemunson, Grit Youngquist, Cy Kosel, Jake Sedlack, Barb Rose, Philip Rickie, Tess Rizzardi, Kathryn Szczepaniak, Jon Kerr, Sharon Stephens, and Alice Messer

- A. Alice Messer of Park and Recreation welcomed attendees and provided a brief overview of meeting agenda and introductions made.
- В. Alice Messer of Parks and Recreation recapped previous task force meetings from September 2007, November 2007 and January 2008.
- C. Presentation of revised conceptual trail alignment plan
 - 1. Highlighted minor revisions to trail alignment plan. These included:
 - a. Temporary on-road trail crossing over Smith Avenue utilitizing existing stoplight at George Street.
 - b. On-road trail will follow Manomin Avenue and George Street. On street parking will not be removed, but signage and pavement markings will be added to demark on-road trail segment.
 - c. Typical shared use trail will be 10' wide, asphalt trail with 2' clear zone on each side. In most situations, an 8' boulevard will remain between the edge of the trail and the roadway. Where existing ravines reduce the amount of space between the roadway and trail; trail will be reduced to 8' width and boulevard will be removed.
 - **d.** Existing parking lots will be removed and replaced with on-road parking. Raised intersections at trail crossing will be provided to reduce traffic speeds and provide pedestrian crossings.
 - e. Fencing will be required where the trail is adjacent to steep bluff drop-offs and along the majority of Ohio Street.
 - f. Overlook areas proposed off Ohio Street and off Cherokee Heights Blvd. adjacent to picnicking area of park.
 - g. Discussed incorporation of public artist on design team. Ideas included fencing, overlook design, spatial development and retaining walls.
- Presentation by Philip Rickie on public artist component D.
 - 1. Presentation of previous work by Philip Rickie.
 - 2. Discussed role in combining art with existing trail components.





E. Discussion/Comments/Questions:

- 1. Concern regarding amount of parking provided by picnic location. On-road parking space is defined by existing ravines along bluff. Able to provide approximately 60 on-road parking spots.
- 2. Discussion regarding traffic calming measures including raised intersections at trail crossing to delineate crossing as well as slow down traffic. On-road parking and narrowing of roadway will deter high traffic speeds along Cherokee Boulevard.
- 3. Discussion regarding three-way intersection at Cherokee Boulevard and Annapolis Street. Mn DOT will not allow three-way stop at this intersection, but stop sign on Parks property will be included as well as signage indicating "Trail Crossing Ahead" and "On Coming Traffic Does Not Stop".
- 4. Discussion on Cherokee Boulevard and Chippewa Street intersection. Engineer will explore options to adjust corner of Chippewa Street to make right angle intersection.
- 5. Discussion on providing soft trail along ravine behind tennis courts. Concern about enhancing trail and eliminating "character" that currently exists. Consensus to remove soft trail enhancements as part of project scope.
- 6. Discussion regarding removal of existing hackberry trees where space is limited between roadway and edge of bluff. Engineer will explore impacts in protecting existing hackberry trees to keep existing parkway boulevard feel.
- 7. Need for signage at Annapolis and Cherokee Blvd. Look at developing as park gateway.
- 8. Discussion regarding public art component. Identified overlook locations as possible place to utilize landforms, landscaping and paving to develop design of overlooks.
- 9. Discussion on available funding for project amenities after physical trail construction. Engineer to complete cost estimate of trail construction and then able to estimate level of design enhancements available.
- 10. Explanation on temporary on-road trail segment crossing Smith Avenue via George and Manomin Street. Tunnel construction under Smith Avenue will be future funding request to complete continuous, off road regional trail.
- 11. Overall consensus reached on conceptual trail alignment.

F. Next Steps:

- Engineer to look at traffic alignment at Chippewa and Cherokee Blvd intersection
- Alice to explore Critical Area Zoning requirements to insure ability to construct trail up Ohio Street
- Hold public Open House for additional input on trail design

PLEASE REVIEW THESE NOTES AND CONTACT ME (651-266-6412) IF COMMENTS ARE INCORRECTLY NOTED OR MISSED COMPLETELY.

Alice Messer

Project Landscape Architect

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